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(c) a polymer matrix including a polymerizable resin adapted for use in an oral environment which contains at least one of 2,2-bis[4-(2-hydroxy-3-methacrylyloxypropoxy)phenyl]propane, ethyleneglycol dimethacrylate; triethyleneglycol dimethacrylate, and/or an urethane dimethacrylate resin; a filler, initiator, a coupling agent and, optionally, additional additives.

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40. (New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 47, wherein said composition comprises (a).

(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 42, wherein said composition contains at least one acrylic polymer containing repeating monomer units represented by the formula

$$\begin{array}{c}
R_2 \\
-\{CH_2-C\}_{\overline{n}} \\
C=O
\end{array}$$

wherein

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R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, a substituted alkyl group, a benzyl group, a hydroxy alkyl group, a cyclic hydrocarbon, an ether group,

 $\rm R_2$ represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group, or a substituted alkyl group, and

n is an integer of two or more.

(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 45, wherein R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, a cyclic hydrocarbon, a benzyl group, a hydroxy alkyl group, or an ether group.

(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 43, wherein R_2 represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, or an alkyl group.

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(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 40, wherein said filler comprises an organic filler or an inorganic filler.



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(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 3/41, wherein, wherein said composition comprises (b).

48. (New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim
47, wherein said organopolysiloxane is represented by any of formulas (III), (IV) or (V)

$$R_{2}$$
 R_{2} R_{2} R_{2} R_{2} R_{2} R_{3} R_{3} R_{3} R_{3} R_{3} R_{3} R_{3} R_{3} (III)

$$R_{2}$$
 R_{2} R_{2} R_{2} R_{2} R_{3} R_{3} R_{3} R_{3} R_{4} R_{5} R_{2} R_{2} R_{2} R_{2} R_{2} R_{2} R_{3} R_{4} R_{5} R_{5} R_{7} R_{1} R_{2} R_{2} R_{3} R_{3} R_{4} R_{5} R_{5} R_{5} R_{5} R_{5} R_{5} R_{5} R_{5}

wherein said formulas

m represents a value of 1 to about 6,000,

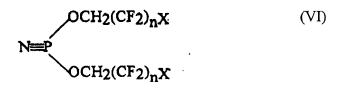
n represents an integer having a value of 1 to 6,

 R_1 represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group,

R₂ represents an alkyl group of 1-6 carbon atoms, and

R₃ represents an alkyl group having 1-6 carbon atoms.

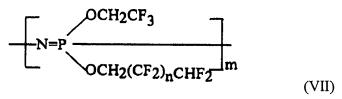
(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 39, wherein said composition comprises (b) and said at least one phosphonitrile fluroropolymer that is represented by formula (VI):





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in which X represents a hydrogen atom or fluorine atom, n is a value of 1 to 11; or that has repeating monomer units represented by formula (VII):



in which n represents 3, 5, 7, 9 or 11 and m is from 10,000 to 50, 000.

50. (New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim wherein said composition comprises (c).

(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 48, wherein said initiator comprises at least one micowave sensitive compound.

(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 49, wherein said initiator comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of benzoyl peroxide, dilauroyl peroxide, (tert-butyl) peroctoate, tert-butyl perbenzoate, 2,4-dichlorobenzoyl peroxide and 4,4-dichlorobenzoyl peroxide.

(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 49, wherein said composition contains 0.05% to 1.0% by weight of said initiator.

51/2. (New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 50, wherein said coupler comprises gamma-methoxyproplyene silane or a thiomethacrylate.

(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 42, wherein (a) further comprises an amine accelerator.

(New) A microwave curable composition suitable for a denture base according to claim 41, wherein said filler comprises particles having a particle size in the range of 0.04 to approximately 10 micrometers.





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55/5/. (New) A method for forming a hardened object comprising

- (i) forming a hardenable dental composite from a microwave curable composition, or applying a microwave curable resin matrix to a tooth; and
- (ii) obtaining said hardened object by applying microwave energy to harden said composite or cure said resin matrix.
- 56. (New) A method according to claim 57, wherein said composite is a dental prosthetic or orthopedic element.
- (New) A method according to claim 57, wherein said composite is a dental prosthetic and in (ii) the hardening is intra-oral using a hand-held microwave applicator.
- (New) A method according to claim \$7, wherein said dental prosthetic is a composite filling, a crown, a bridge, an inlay, an overlay, a facing, a veneer or orthodontic appliance.
- (New) A method according to claim 5%, wherein said microwave curable composite are according to claim 20.
- 62. (New) A method according to claim 51, wherein in said method a hand-held microwave applicator is used in curing said resin matrix.

See Appendix